

REMARKS

Claims 5-10 are now pending in the application. Claims 5-10 stand rejected. Claims 5 and 9 have been amended herein. The subject matter of Amended Claims 5 and 9 was previously submitted and discussed in the Response filed on November 4, 2003. Accordingly, the amendments do not raise new issues and should be entered. Support for the amendments to Claims 5 and 9 can be found at least in the first full paragraph on page 3 of the present application. No new matter has been added. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claim 9 stands objected to because of the following informalities: Examiner asserts the limitation “operable to be divided” is awkward. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner’s objection. Notwithstanding, Claim 9 has been amended herein. It is believed that with the amendment to Claim 9 the objection is now rendered moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the instant objection is requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 5-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Evans et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,514,503). Claims 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Evans et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,514,503) in view of Majima (U.S. 5,724,110). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 5 recites a method for manufacturing an electro-optical device including a flexographic process. Claim 9 recites a method for manufacturing a liquid crystal device. Both Claims 5 and 9 call for “wherein at least two of: said first predetermined

pitch of said color filters of the same color; a second pitch of meshes, which enhance a holding ability of said coating liquid, formed on a surface of said anilox roller; and a third pitch of meshes, which enhance a holding ability of said coating liquid, formed on a surface of said projection are substantially equal.” The meshes called for in Claims 5 and 9 are used for enhancing the ability of the associated roller or projection for holding a coating thereon. These meshes provide specific surface features on the associated roller and projections that facilitate the application of a coating to that surface and allowing the subsequent transfer of that coating to another surface. These extremely small meshes cause marks to be formed on the surface of the transferred coating. The meshes are not concerned with the precise positioning or registering of the coating with components on the surface to which the coating is to be applied. In other words, the meshes serve strictly to enhance the ability of the surfaces to hold the coating prior to being transferred and do not relate to the positioning of the coating into specific registry with the surface upon which the coating is being transferred to. It is respectfully submitted that the teachings in the Evans et al. reference are completely unconcerned with meshes, which enhance a holding ability of a coating, of the present invention and, accordingly, one skilled in the art would not look to the teachings of the Evans et al. reference to arrive at the subject matter of Claims 5 and 9.

In contrast to the present invention, the Evans et al. reference is concerned with producing extremely accurate black matrix patterns having well-defined, square edges. See column 4, lines 35-41 of the Evans et al. reference. Contrary to what is stated in the Office Action, these well-defined edges are not accomplished by precisely aligning the black matrix raised pattern with roller and transfer layer patterns. Rather, the well-

defined edges are formed by hardening or curing either the embossed transfer layer 14 or the black matrix ink when deposited into recessed pattern 20 on intaglio roller 18. It is the hardening or curing that produces these well-defined edges. The subsequent aligning of the black matrix pattern with the color filters and other components is not at all related to the forming of the well-defined edges. This is based upon a fair reading of the Evans et al. reference in its entirety.

In regards to what the Evans et al. reference does teach and disclose in relation to the application of the colored ink and registry with the black matrix pattern, the aligning of inking rolls 54 relative to a pattern roll 50 to apply the colored ink into the recesses within the black matrix pattern is well-known in the art. That is, the applying of the color filters at a desired location on a substrate or within a black matrix pattern is known. Additionally, the applying of a planarizing layer to the color filters that are arranged on a substrate in a subsequent process step is also known. See column 4, lines 14-17 of the Evans et al. reference. These coatings/films/layers that are formed on top of the color filters are applied in registry with the substrate such that these coatings/films/layers cover desired regions of the substrate and components thereon. The registry of these coatings/films/layers with the substrate and the components, however, are not performed by the coating holding enhancing meshes of the present invention. Rather, they are performed by the overall shape and orientation of the surface of the anilox roller and the projections and recesses of the letterpress. During the application of these coatings/films/layers, the meshes impart small marks on the surface of these coatings/films/layers. When the coating/film/layer is transferred from one component to another that utilize these coating holding enhancing meshes, the

marks imposed by the various meshes can interfere with one another and cause moiré which decreases the quality of images formed by the electro-optical device or liquid crystal device.

To minimize and/or prevent the marks interfering with one another and causing moiré, the present invention calls for making at least two of the pitch of the color filters of the same color, the pitch of the meshes, which enhance a holding ability of the coating, formed on a surface of an anilox roller and the pitch of the meshes, which enhance a holding ability of the coating, formed on the surface of a projection of a letterpress substantially equal as called for in Claims 5 and 9. If the Evans et al. reference were concerned with the alignment of marks caused by coating holding enhancing meshes, the reference would discuss such meshes as existing on the surface of transfer layer applicator roll 42 and collector roll 16 which would impart these marks upon transfer layer 14. Furthermore, the ink rolls 54 and pattern roll 50 may also contain meshes that would impart marks on the colored ink. However, the Evans et al. reference is completely silent about the existence of such meshes on any of the rollers thereon. The Evans et al. reference is silent because it is not concerned with the effect of marks formed on the transfer layer 14 or the colored ink as a result of any coating holding enhancing meshes that may exist on the rollers used to apply or manipulate the various coatings, films and layers.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has failed to appreciate the significance of the present invention and has misapplied the Evans et al. reference in rejecting the claims therein. For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 5 and 9 are nonobvious and patentable over the prior art of record. Claims 6-8

and 10 all depend from Claims 5 and 9 and, therefore, for at least the reasons stated above with reference to Claims 5 and 9 are also not rendered obvious by the prior art of record. Accordingly, withdrawal of the instant rejections is requested.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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